GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:977
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR TOILET FACILITIES
Chaure Shri Bapu Hari;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the recent report of National Family Health Survey that nearly 55 percent of the households in the country lack toilet facilities;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to initiate a new comprehensive awareness campaign to provide each and every house with toilet facilities in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a)&(b): As per 1991 census, the total percentage of household with latrine in rural areas was about 22%, which has increased to about 48.51% by the end of October 2007. To accelerate the pace of rural sanitation coverage in India, a centrally sponsored programme, namely Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), was introduced in 1986. Central Rural Sanitation Programme was restructured in 1999 as Total Sanitation Campaign, with focus on demand generation through effective information, education and communication campaign. It is being implemented in rural areas taking district as a unit of implementation. Projects have been approved for 578 rural districts of the country. As a result, total percentage of household with latrine in rural area has increased to about 48.51% by the end of the October, 2007.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. Government has taken various initiatives to increase rural sanitation coverage, which include scaling up Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), launching of incentive-cum-reward scheme, Nirmal Gram Puraskar for Pancyatati Raj Institutions, NGOs etc. and awareness generation activities and capacity development of different stakeholders. Unit cost of IHHL has been revised upwards to Rs.1, 500/- and Rs.2, 000/- from Rs.625/- and Rs.1, 000/- respectively. Provision has been made for APL families who need assistance by providing soft loan through `Revolving Fund` mechanism for construction of toilets. To increase the speed of providing sanitation facilities in schools and Anganwadi centers, requirement of community contribution for construction of toilets in the schools and Anganwadi centers have been removed. Efforts are being made to develop convergence with National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and Sarva Siksha Abhiyam (SSA) for awareness creation and hygiene education among the people and children in the rural areas. Chain of Rural Sanitary Mart/Production Centre has been set up to ensure timely supply of toilet pans and trained masons.